



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/925,596	08/09/2001	Zhong-Hua Wang	YOR9-2001-0451US1 (8728 -	5429

7590 01/15/2004

Frank Chau
F. CHAU & ASSOCIATES, LLP
Suite 501
1900 Hempstead Turnpike
East Meadow, NY 11554

EXAMINER

EHICHIOYA, FRED I

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2172

DATE MAILED: 01/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/925,596

Applicant(s)

WANG ET AL.

Examiner

Fred I. Ehichioya

Art Unit

2172

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____ 6) ☐ Other: ____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1 – 33 are pending in this office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1 - 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over USPN 6,408,282 issued to Walter D. Buist (hereinafter "Buist") in view of USPN 5,761,442 issued to Dean S. Barr et al (hereinafter "Barr").

Regarding claims 1 and 22, Buist teaches a method for automatically updating stock and mutual fund grammars in a speech recognition system, comprising the steps of:

automatically updating, on a pre-specified basis, a database having a plurality of entries, each entry respectively corresponding to a publicly traded stock or a publicly traded fund, and respectively comprising at least one name of the publicly traded stock or publicly traded fund, a weight for the at least one name, and baseforms of the at least one name (see Fig.60 and column 6, lines 25 – 61); and

automatically updating a grammar file for names in the database, the grammar file including the names and weights for the names (see column 9, lines 43 – 55).

Buist does not explicitly teach a weight for the at least one name.

Barr teaches a weight for the at least one name (see column 4, lines 51 – 57).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine teaching of Barr with the teaching of Buist wherein each stock is allocated a weight based on its estimated performance potential within the prescribed future time period and other parameters related to the investment risk. The motivation is that these weights form the basis of both long and short portfolios.

Regarding claims 2, 14, and 23, Buist teaches the steps of:

automatically identifying, from web sites, stocks and funds that are no longer listed on a market (see column 10, lines 25 – 50); and

automatically removing from the database any of the plurality of entries corresponding to the identified stocks and funds (see column 10, lines 53 – 54).

Regarding claims 3 and 24, Buist teaches the steps of:

automatically identifying, from web sites, newly listed stocks and newly listed funds, if any (see column 10, lines 26 – 34); and

automatically creating an entry in the database for each of the newly listed stocks and the newly listed funds (see column 11, lines 1 – 14).

Regarding claims 4 and 25, Buist teaches the steps of:

generating the baseforms of the names of the newly listed stocks and the newly listed funds (see column 11, lines 62 – 67).

Buist does not explicitly teach determining the weights for the names of the newly listed stocks and the newly listed funds.

Barr teaches determining the weights for the names of the newly listed stocks and the newly listed funds (see column 4, lines 51 – 57).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine teaching of Barr with the teaching of Buist wherein each stock is allocated a weight based on its estimated performance potential within the prescribed future time period and other parameters related to the investment risk. The motivation is that these weights form the basis of both long and short portfolios.

Regarding claims 5, 16 and 26, Buist teaches the steps of:

identifying the transaction volumes of any stocks and funds for which an entry exists in the database (see Fig. 6 step 677 and column 13, lines 25 – 27);

quantizing the transaction volumes into a plurality of bands (see column 13, lines 27 – 40).

Buist does not explicitly teach assigning a corresponding weight to each of the plurality of bands.

Barr teaches assigning a corresponding weight to each of the plurality of bands (see column 4, lines 51 – 57).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine teaching of Barr with the teaching of Buist wherein each stock is allocated a weight based on its estimated performance potential within the prescribed future time period and other parameters related to the investment risk. The motivation is that these weights form the basis of both long and short portfolios.

Regarding claims 6 and 27, Barr teaches wherein a given corresponding weight assigned to a given band corresponds to each of the names of any of the stocks and funds in the given band (see column 2, lines 2 – 11).

Regarding claims 7, 17 and 28, Buist teaches the steps of:

automatically combining short words in the database to form combined words, a short word being a stock name or a fund name that has less than a predefined number of phonemes (see Figs. 5, 51 and column 34, lines 40 – 65);

automatically generating the baseforms for the combined words; and updating the grammar file to include the combined words (see column 10, line 63 thru column 11, line 14).

Regarding claims, 18 and 29, Barr teaches wherein said step of updating the database comprises the step of automatically adapting the weights for the names in the database, based upon a transaction volume over a predetermined period of time (see column 7, line 66 thru column 8, line 18).

Regarding claims 9 and 30, Buist teaches wherein said step of updating the database is performed on a pre-specified basis (see column 17, lines 44 – 47).

Regarding claims 10 and 31, Buist teaches wherein the pre-specified basis is daily (see column 36, lines 20 – 27).

Regarding claims 11, 19 and 32, Buist teaches wherein each of the plurality of entries further comprises one of corresponding resolved stock names or corresponding resolved fund names, if any (see column 14, line 60 thru column 15, line 26).

Regarding claims 12, 20 and 33, Buist teaches wherein each of the plurality of entries further comprises corresponding stock nicknames or corresponding fund nicknames, if any (see Fig. 8).

Regarding claim 13, Buist teaches a method for automatically updating stock and mutual fund grammars in a speech recognition system, comprising the steps of:

constructing a database having a plurality of entries, each entry respectively corresponding to a publicly traded stock or a publicly traded fund, and respectively comprising at least one name of the publicly traded stock or publicly traded fund, a weight for the at least one name, and baseforms of the at least one name (see column 10, line 63 thru column 11, line 14);

generating a grammar file for names in the database, the grammar file including the names and weights for the names (see Fig.60 and column 6, lines 25 – 61);

automatically updating the database on a pre-specified basis, including adding new entries for newly listed stocks and newly listed funds and removing any of the plurality of entries corresponding to newly unlisted stocks and newly unlisted funds (see column 10, lines 53 – 54);

and automatically updating the grammar file with respect to the newly listed stock names and the newly listed fund names (see column 10, line 63 thru column 11, line 14).

Buist does not explicitly teach a weight for the at least one name.

Barr teaches a weight for the at least one name (see column 4, lines 51 – 57).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine teaching of Barr with the teaching of Buist wherein each stock is allocated a weight based on its estimated performance potential within the prescribed future time period and other parameters related to the investment risk. The motivation is that these weights form the basis of both long and short portfolios.

Regarding claim 15, Buist teaches wherein said step of adding the new entries for the newly listed stocks and the newly listed funds comprises the step of automatically identifying, from web sites, the newly listed stocks and newly listed funds, if any (see column 10, line 63 thru column 11, line 28).

Regarding claim 21, Buist teaches wherein said step of updating the database comprises the step of automatically generating baseforms of the newly listed stock names and the newly listed fund names (see column 10, line 63 thru column 11, line 14).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Fred I. Ehichioya whose telephone number is 703-305-8039. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E. Breene can be reached on 703-305-9790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-303-3900.

Fred I. Ehichioya
Examiner
Art Unit 2172
January 12, 2004



ALFORD KINDRED
PRIMARY EXAMINER